

REMARKS

The non-elected claims have been canceled and the applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application on the non-elected subject matter.

In paragraph 4 of the Office Action, claims 1-4, 6-12, 14-18, 21-26 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a, b or e) as anticipated or in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Pickney '678 and '857 or DE2064528, each taken alone.

Reconsideration is requested in view of this Amendment.

It has been noted that the present Office Action was made final even though it is the first Office Action on the merits. For this reason, it is requested that this Amendment be entered without a showing of good and sufficient reasons in accordance with 37 CFR §1.116.

Amended claims 1-13 are distinguishable from the cited references in that the glass-ceramics of these claims contain 0.5% - 2% CaO whereas the glass-ceramics disclosed in these references do not contain CaO. In the claimed glass-ceramics of the present invention the defined amount of CaO functions to reduce the melting temperature of the glass and to maintain transparency of the glass-ceramics. For these reasons, it is requested that this ground of rejection not be applied against the amended claims.

In paragraph 5 of the Office Action, claims 1-7, 9, 14-21 and 23-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Morimoto et al.

Reconsideration is requested.

Amended claims 1-13 are distinguishable from the cited reference because, as noted *supra*, the glass-ceramics of these

claims contain 0.5% - 2% CaO whereas the glass-ceramics disclosed in these references do not contain CaO. For this reason, Morimoto et al. fails to anticipate the amended claims and it is requested that this ground of rejection be withdrawn.

In paragraph 6 of the Office Action, claim 28 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Goto et al. Claim 28 has been canceled and is no longer at issue.

The Examiner's comments regarding the allowability of claims 13 and 27 have been noted. It is believed that the amendment of claim 1 has placed the remaining claims in condition for allowance.

An early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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